

What is claimed is:

1. A portable information communication apparatus for conducting information communication, comprising:

5 an image capturing device for obtaining an image of a subject through a zoom optical system;

a body casing connected to said image capturing device;

a communicator for conducting information communication with the exterior;

10 a display disposed on said body casing for displaying said image obtained by said image capturing device; and

a rotating mechanism for changing a positional relationship of said image capturing device and said body casing relative to each other between a first position in which an optical axis of said image capturing device and a display screen of said display are substantially parallel to each other and a second position in which said optical axis of  
15 said image capturing device and said display screen of said display are substantially perpendicular to each other.

2. The information communication apparatus according to claim 1, wherein

the length of said image capturing device along said optical axis is  
20 approximately equal to the width of said body casing along said optical axis when in said first position.

3. The information communication apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising

25 a group of control buttons provided on a surface of said body casing facing in

substantially the same direction as said display screen for accepting a user input.

4. The information communication apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising

5 a manual operation device for accepting a user's operation associated with information communication when in said first position and for accepting a user's operation associated with image capturing when in said second position.

10 5. The information communication apparatus according to claim 4, wherein said manual operation device comprises a rotary member for accepting a push-in operation and a rotary operation.

15 6. The information communication apparatus according to claim 5, wherein said rotary operation of said rotary member effects a change in magnification of said zoom optical system when in said second position.

7. A portable apparatus comprising:  
a first body for housing a photoelectric conversion device and an optical system for image-forming a subject image on said photoelectric conversion device, a first dimension of said first body along an optical axis of said optical system being longer than  
20 a second dimension of said first body in a direction perpendicular to said optical axis of said optical system;

a second body including a display for displaying an image based on image data outputted from said photoelectric conversion device, a first dimension of said second  
25 body in a direction perpendicular to a screen of said display being shorter than a second

dimension of said second body in a direction parallel to said screen of said display;

a communication unit for communicating with an external device, said communication unit being capable of transmitting said image data outputted from said photoelectric conversion device; and

5 a connecting member for connecting said first body and said second body to each other, said connecting member being movable between a first position in which said optical axis of said optical system is substantially parallel to said screen of said display and a second position in which said optical axis of said optical system is substantially perpendicular to said screen of said display.

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8. The portable apparatus according to claim 7, wherein

a first dimension of said optical system along said optical axis is longer than a second dimension of said optical system in a direction perpendicular to said optical axis.

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9. The portable apparatus according to claim 7, wherein

a dimension of said optical system in a direction perpendicular to said optical axis of said optical system is approximately equal to said first dimension of said second body.

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10. The portable apparatus according to claim 7, further comprising

a manual operation member provided on a surface of said second body facing in substantially the same direction as said screen of said display.

11. The portable apparatus according to claim 10, further comprising:

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a detector for detecting whether a positional relationship of said optical axis of

a controller for changing between functions of said manual operation member in accordance with a result of detection of said detector.